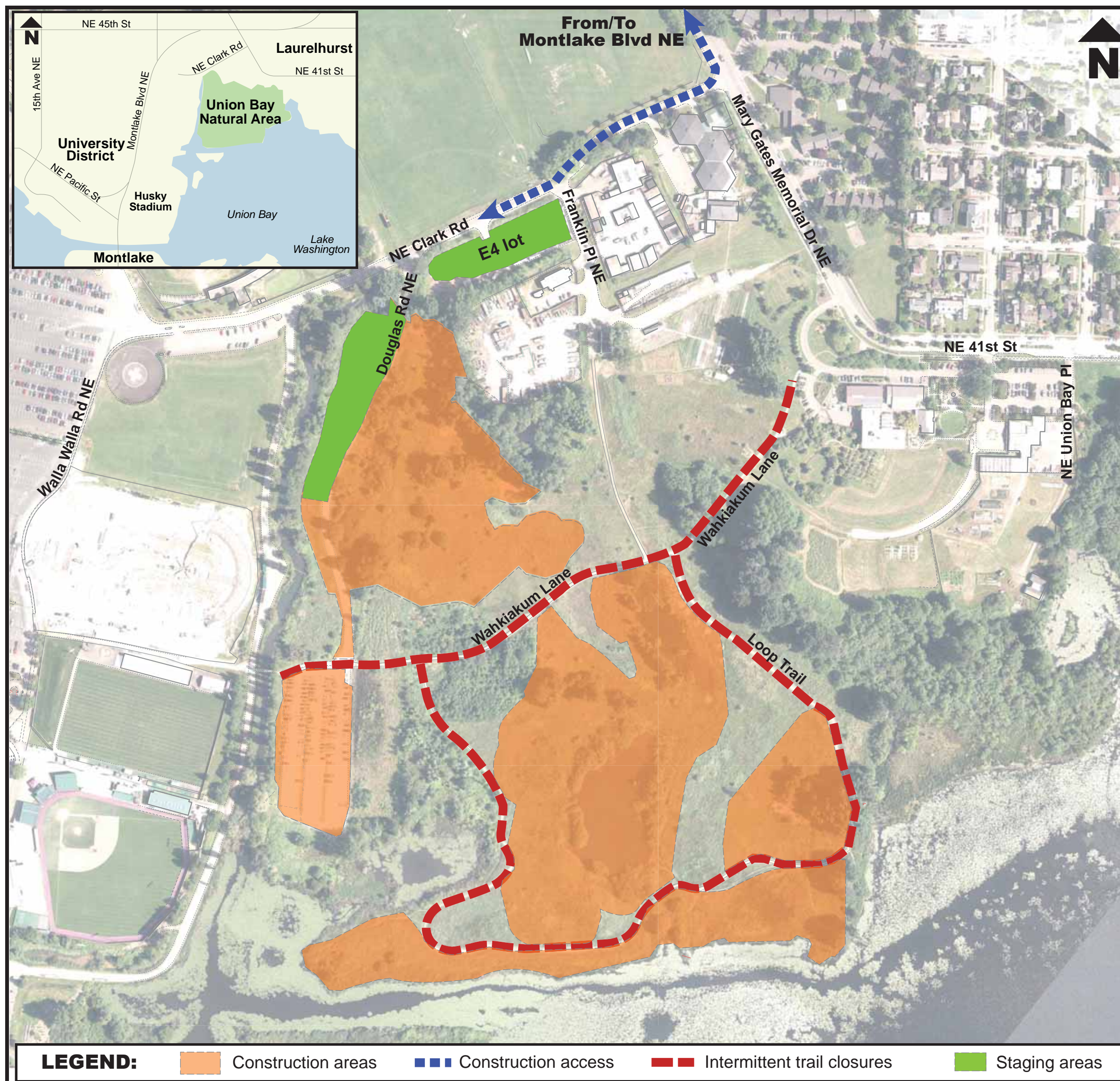


CONSTRUCTION NOTICE

Construction at Union Bay Natural Area to add and enhance wetlands



Project overview

The Union Bay Natural Area (UBNA) Mitigation Project is a partnership between the University of Washington (UW) and the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to create and enhance existing wetlands and replace invasive and non-native species with native wetland species. The mitigation supports and continues work previously begun by the UW as part of the UBNA Shoreline Management Guidelines, and mitigates for adverse effects from the SR 520 West Approach Bridge North project, currently under construction in the Montlake area. When complete, the UBNA Mitigation Project will have added and enhanced approximately 22 acres of wetlands and buffer areas at the UBNA site.

What to expect during construction

WSDOT and the UW are committed to construction management practices that avoid, minimize and mitigate the effects of WSDOT construction activities on neighbors, park users and the traveling public. As mitigation work begins, you can expect:

- **Trail closures:** In order to maintain safety for trail users, the contractor will need to intermittently close the trail along *Wahkiakum Lane* and the *Loop Trail*. The contractor is allowed up to 50 days of trail closures and is required to keep trails open over weekends.
- **Restricted construction areas:** The contractor will install orange fencing and stakes around project boundaries, research plots and key areas that need additional protection during construction.
- **Staging of materials:** In order to minimize impact to trail users, the contractor plans to stockpile materials, such as woodchips, in specified locations throughout the UBNA site and near Douglas Road Northeast.
- **Staging areas:** In order to minimize impacts to the traveling public, the contractor plans to stage construction equipment and offices in the *E4 parking lot* and near *Douglas Road Northeast*.
- **Vegetation removal:** In order to provide access for construction equipment to the work areas within UBNA, the contractor will prune select trees and vegetation. The contractor will also remove selected non-native species and replant with native wetland species.
- **Restricted construction during bird nesting season:** In order to protect nesting birds, between March 1 and July 31, the contractor will not be permitted to conduct certain construction activities such as vegetation removal and excavation. Some activities such as material stockpiling and other staking activities will be permitted as long as these activities do not disturb nesting sites. All construction activities will be monitored by WSDOT and the contractor to ensure that construction activities do not disturb nesting sites.

Anticipated project timeline

- May 2016 – Construction begins
- Spring 2017 – Construction scheduled for completion

How to stay informed about Union Bay Natural Area construction

WSDOT will notify the public of upcoming trail closures and other key construction milestones throughout the project through the following forums.

Online

- Visit the SR 520 Orange Page: bit.ly/520OrangePage
- Visit the SR 520 UBNA website : bit.ly/520UBNA
- Follow us on Twitter: @wsdot_520

On-site signage and informational fliers

- Keep an eye out for information posters on site.

Email

- Sign up for WABN email updates: bit.ly/WABNweekly
- Email project staff: SR520Bridge@wsdot.wa.gov

Phone: For urgent construction issues, call the SR 520 24-hour construction hotline: 206-708-4657

We thank you in advance for your patience as we work to add and enhance wetlands within the UBNA.